Exhibit C

	Page 1
1	UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
	FOR THE WESTERN DISTRICT OF NORTH CAROLINA
2	CHARLOTTE DIVISION
	CIVIL ACTION NO. 3:20-CV-00504-FDW-DSC
3	
	CPI SECURITY SYSTEMS, INC.,
4	
5	Plaintiff and Counterclaim Defendant,
6	V.
7	
	VIVINT SMART HOME, INC. f/k/a Mosaic
8	Acquisition Corp.; and LEGACY VIVINT
	SMART HOME, INC. f/k/a Vivint Smart Home,
9	Inc.,
10	
	Defendants and Counterclaimants.
11	
12	
13	
14	
15	REMOTE VIDEOTAPED VIDEOCONFERENCE DEPOSITION
16	of
17	JORGE MILLARES
18	(Taken by Plaintiff and Counterclaim Defendant)
19	at witness's stated physical location of
20	Mecklenburg County, North Carolina
21	August 31st, 2021
22	11:12 a.m.
23	
24	
	Job No. CS4775954
25	Reported by: Leslie Christian Lentkowski

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- A. I understand.
- Q. All right. Well, let's start. Tell us
- 3 what line of work you're in right now.
 - A. Currently, I am a director of sales and
- 5 marketing for a retirement community.
- 6 Q. And what's the name of that company?
- 7 A. Alders Gate.
- 8 Q. How long have you been there?
- A. Since November of last year -- of 2020.
- 10 Q. And if you could, going back maybe, say,
- 11 five or ten years just give us an outline of the
- 12 various jobs that you've held.
- 13 A. So before working here -- I would say, I
- 14 guess, five years. We would be looking at around 2016.
- 15 So I worked at CPI briefly for about a year, and after
- 16 that I was the executive director of Queen City Unity,
- 17 a non-profit focused on equity and equality here in
- 18 Charlotte, and now I work at Alders Gate.
- 19 Q. Do you still have a role at Queen City 20 Unity?
- 21 A. I am on the board of directors, yes.
- Q. All right. So you said you worked for CPI
- 23 for a period of time. What years did you work at CPI?
- A. From November, I believe -- well, it was
- 25 definitely from 2016 to 2017. The months, I don't feel

- A. I don't think we had much of a
- 2 relationship, I guess is probably the best way to
- 3 answer that. He was the CEO and owner of the company I
- 4 worked for, and I think that was the extent of the
- 5 relationship.
- 6 Q. Could you describe for us what you did in
- 7 your job function as a call center director?
- 8 A. Yeah. I led a team of about 20 --
- 9 approximately 20 sales reps that were focused on
- 10 retentions, and -- so, you know, folks would call.
- 11 They would try to cancel their service. We would
- 12 either save them. Then we also sold -- anybody moving
- 13 into a home that had a CPI system, so my job was
- 14 leading those efforts.
- 15 Q. And did you have any co-equals, or were you
- 16 the only team leader in that department?
- 17 A. Within that department, I was the only
- 18 person in my role. There was another call center
- 19 director, but she ran the customer service side of the 20 business.
- Q. And you said that you had some issues with
- 22 Mr. Schockness. Can you tell us a little more about
- 23 what issues you had with him?
- A. Yeah. You know, the easiest example I can
- 25 think of was at some point, you know, sales weren't

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- 1 comfortable saying them off the top of my head because
- 2 I'm under oath and I don't remember.
- 3 Q. That's fine. What was your job function at 4 CPI?
- 5 A. I was a call center director there.
- 6 Q. Who were your -- who was your direct report
- 7 boss?
- 8 A. John Schockness.
- 9 Q. How did you get along with Mr. Schockness?
- 10 A. Well, okay at best. At times, there were
- 11 some inflicts specifically around some racial
- 12 undertones and comments that he would make to me about
- 13 my role there.
- 14 Q. Who else did you report to other than
- 15 Mr. Schockness?
- 16 A. That was it.
- 17 Q. Did you know Mr. Gill at all when you
- 18 worked at CPI?
- 19 A. I think "know" is a powerful word. You
- 20 know, I knew of him. He interviewed me the first time.
- 21 Maybe we had several conversations, but I could
- 22 probably count them -- you know, five to ten
- 23 conversations during my short period of time there.
- Q. Did you feel like you had a good
- 25 relationship with Mr. Gill when you were at CPI?

- 1 really where they needed to be, and he said something
- 2 to the effect of, "Well, Jorge, if we don't get those
- 3 numbers up, we're going to have to deport you." So as
- 4 a United States born citizen of Hispanic descent, that
- 5 was pretty offensive. That's one example that comes to
- 6 mind.
- 7 Q. Did you complain to anyone at CPI about
- 8 Mr. Schockness's behavior?
- 9 A. Him and I had a conversation where, you
- 10 know, I explained to him that it's just not
- 11 appropriate, but outside of that, my time thereafter
- 12 was short-lived.
- 13 Q. How did you leave CPI? What were the
- 14 circumstances?
- 15 A. Well, after that I was asked to leave, and
- 16 then it was a separation agreement where we -- both
- 17 parties agreed. They thought I should leave. I
- 18 thought I should leave. Therefore, there was a
- 19 separation agreement in place.
- Q. What were the circumstances of how that
- 21 came about?
- A. It was, according to them, not a good job
- 23 fit, which I guess is interesting considering I was
- 24 there for about a year and a half. So I agreed that it
- 25 wasn't a good job fit but not necessarily due to the

3 (Pages 6 - 9)

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- 1 functions of the role itself, more so because of the
- 2 company culture.
- Q. What do you mean by that?
- A. Well, when your boss is telling you you're
- 5 going to get deported if you don't get numbers up,
- 6 that's definitely not the type of culture I want to be
- 7 a part of. Not to mention, you know, some of the
- 8 instructions that -- so for us not as much, but at
- 9 least on the customer service side, I heard about a lot
- 10 of different folks being asked to do things they didn't
- 11 feel comfortable with.
- 12 For example, if a customer asks for a white
- 13 technician rather than a black technician, they would
- 14 oblige to that. Again, it didn't come across on my
- 15 side of the work, but that's what I heard from some
- 16 customer service representatives.
- 17 Q. Did you ever complain about that to anyone
- 18 within CPI?
- 19 A. In terms of an official complaint to human
- 20 resources, no.
- 21 Q. Did you ever make an EEOC complaint against
- 22 CPI?
- 23 A. No. When these things came to light,
- 24 that's when the conversations around a potential
- 25 separation came up, and I just agreed and left quietly.

- 1 likely, from what I remember, it was either text or a
- 2 phone conversation. I can't remember. It was a while
- 4 Q. When you separated with CPI, you said you
- 5 had some sort of an agreement. Do you recall what that
- 6 was called?
- A. I believe it may have been called a
- 8 separation agreement.
- Q. Do you know how long that agreement was set
- 10 to last?
- 11 A. In terms of the pay that was given to me?
- 12 O. Yeah. And then my next question was going
- 13 to be whether there was anything like a
- 14 non-disparagement clause or anything like that in the
- 15 agreement if you remember?
- 16 A. No. I can't say that I do.
- 17 Q. And how long did you receive pay after your
- 18 separation from CPI?
- 19 A. It couldn't have been more than two or
- 20 three months.
- 21 Q. When you left CPI, did you retain a number
- 22 of e-mail addresses of CPI employees?
- 23 A. No. Sorry. When you say "retain," like,
- 24 for example, in my open letter to the mayor in 2020,
- 25 Mr. Kenneth Gill was on that e-mail. He had been added

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- 1 Q. Were you ever part of an EEOC investigation
- 2 related to any other employees?
- A. I do remember -- I believe there was a
- 4 complaint, if I'm not mistaken. I can't remember the
- 5 gentleman's name. And that one in particular I didn't
- 6 think was accurate. Therefore, I had a written
- 7 statement stating what I witnessed, and it did not
- 8 match what the complaint was.
- Q. To the best of your recollection,
- 10 understanding it's been a while, what didn't match up
- 11 about the complaint based on what you recall occurring?
- 12 A. From what I recall, it was something to the
- 13 effect of someone being told that -- a black gentleman
- 14 being told that he is better off applying for a job as
- 15 a janitor. I didn't witness it. Therefore, I didn't
- 16 testify that I witnessed it. It doesn't take away from
- 17 the fact it may have happened, but I just personally
- 18 didn't witness it.
- 19 Q. Did you have any conversations with that
- 20 gentleman about the accusations he made?
- A. Before or -- well, I guess after, right?
- 22 If I recall -- and I'm trying my best to remember.
- 23 There may have been a text message conversation or a
- 24 phone conversation where he expressed, you know, what
- 25 he witnessed happened, and -- so, yes, more than

- 1 to that e-mail list during my time at CPI, right. So,
- 2 yeah, he was on the e-mail list.
- Q. How many other CPI employees are on the
- 4 e-mail list, to the best of your recollection?
- A. I really cannot recall. I would probably
- 6 venture to say a handful maybe.
- Q. When you left CPI, did you download or save
- 8 any information related to CPI's business?
- A. Not at all, no.
- 10 Q. Do you stay in contact with any CPI
- 11 employees?
- 12 A. Current CPI employees or that ever worked
- 13 there?
- 14 O. Current.
- 15 A. Current -- not that I'm aware of. I don't
- 16 believe they work there any longer, no.
- Q. What CPI or former CPI employees have you 17
- 18 stayed in contact with?
- 19 A. Kelley Phelps, who was one of the other
- 20 call center directors; Dave Raleigh, who was an outdoor
- 21 sales manager. There was a gentleman named Yusuf who
- 22 reached out after the e-mail from Mr. Kenneth Gill when
- 23 he wrote the racist comments to me was publicized. And
- 24 those are the ones that come to mind right now. 25

Q. Any others you can think of?

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- 1 himself. And in several conversations I've had, he
- 2 would try to say something, and she would just cut him
- 3 off. And from my understanding, I was told it's
- 4 because usually he'll say something racially
- 5 insensitive, but before he puts his foot in his mouth,
- 6 she's there to stop him.
- 7 (BY MR. HERBERT)
- Q. Let me ask you about one thing you
- 9 testified about was that CPI -- tell me if this is
- 10 correct. CPI generally had a policy that if a CPI
- 11 customer or potential customer required to have a tech
- 12 or a sales rep come visit them at their home and if
- 13 they requested -- if they asked that CPI not send an
- 14 African-American person, CPI would agree to that and
- 15 would make efforts to make sure that the person who
- 16 went to that customer's house was white or Caucasian;
- 17 is that right?
- 18 MR. EBLEN: Object to form and
- 19 foundation.

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- 20 THE WITNESS: Yes. That's what I was
- 21 told by CPI employees, yes -- former CPI employees.
- 22 (BY MR. HERBERT)
- Q. Do you know whether or not that policy or

MR. EBLEN: Foundation.

3 heard that the person that used to be my counterpart --

4 so this was after we went public -- Queen City Unity

5 did with the letter and after Kerr Putney was hired, as

7 story. But from what I've heard, Ms. Kelley Phelps,

9 brought that up to Chief Kerr Putney -- former Chief

11 the story I heard, Mr. Gill said, "Well, if she doesn't

12 like it, she can leave." And after being there for

13 30 years, she's no longer there.

14 (BY MR. HERBERT)

24 (BY MR. HERBERT)

10 Kerr Putney -- and he went and told Mr. Gill. And from

Q. Let me just break that down a little bit.

16 So you're saying your understanding is that somebody

17 who worked at CPI for 30 years brought this policy or

20 Kerr Putney and possibly Mr. Gill, and CPI didn't do

22 employee could leave the company if she didn't like it?

Q. Is that generally your understanding of

MR. EBLEN: Form and foundation.

21 anything about that but instead suggested that this

18 practice regarding customers requesting that black 19 people not be sent to their doors to the attention of

6 I understand it -- and this is, again, a third-party

8 who was my counterpart as a call center director,

THE WITNESS: So around that time, I

- 24 practice was ever brought to the attention of
- 25 higher-level executives at CPI?

- 1 what transpired?
- A. From the story I was told, yes. That's
- 3 what I'm being told.
- 4 Q. Do you know that female employee's name -
- 5 the employee at CPI?
- A. Yes. Kelley Phelps, K-e-l-l-e-y Phelps.
- 7 Q. I'm sorry. What's the last name?
- 8 A. P-h-e-l-p-s, Phelps.
- 9 Q. And your understanding is she just recently 10 left CPI?
- 11 A. I think it's been about -- well, yeah.
- 12 About six months, maybe more.
- Q. What was her title or role at CPI again?
 - A. Call center director.
- 15 Q. Was she there when you worked there?
- 16 A. She was.

14

- 17 Q. Was she one of your superiors?
- 18 A. No. She was my counterpart. She ran the
- 19 customer service side, and I ran the retention side.
- Q. Okay. So do you recall interacting with
- 21 her while you worked at CPI?
- A. Oh, yeah. Absolutely.
- Q. Did you ever raise any of your concerns
- 24 about racial insensitivity at CPI to Ms. Phelps while
- 25 you worked there?

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1 A. At times. And I think, you know,

- 2 especially given her tenure there, you know, typically
- 3 her response was something along the lines of, "Well, I
- 4 mean, you know how John is" -- "John" being John
- 5 Schockness -- or, "Well, you know how Mr. Gill is."
- 6 And it just came to be accepted, I guess.
- 7 Q. That policy or practice of allowing
- 8 customers to prohibit black people from coming to their
- 9 doors, do you know is that widespread at CPI? Was that
- 10 something widely known among the employees?
- 11 MR. EBLEN: Form and foundation.
- 12 THE WITNESS: I think it was more of
- 13 an as-needed, right. So I can't imagine that there's
- 14 any document that has outlined this policy. But from
- 15 the employees that have had to experience that, the one
- 16 gentleman that told me was a black man, and he said,
- 17 "Hey, you know" -- he got up and asked his manager,
- 18 "What should I do?" and they said, "Just tell them that
- 19 absolutely you will send a white technician without a
- 20 problem, and put it in the notes."
- 21 (BY MR. HERBERT)
- Q. Do you know if it was put in the notes?
- A. I wasn't there, but according to the
- 24 gentleman, he did write it in the notes, yes.
 - Q. Do you happen to know who -- what the name

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Page 46 Page 48 1 of that manager was? 1 But on the first floor, which is where the 2 A. I don't. 2 sales team was, that's what I heard from some of the Q. Who was the gentleman who told you that? 3 sales reps when they were, like, "Oh, yeah. I can A. That, I don't remember either. I had a lot 4 easily sell against Vivint because I just talk about 5 of conversations from June to, like, maybe September or 5 how -- you know, how much of a poorly ran company they 6 August with different CPI employees -- or former CPI 6 are and how they're unethical as a corporation." 7 employees. I can't recall off the top of my head, Q. You heard that from multiple CPI sales 8 Mr. Herbert. 8 reps? 9 Q. No problem. Let me ask you -- do you A. Um-hm. 10 recall whether while you worked at CPI in the call 10 MR. EBLEN: Object to form and 11 center, do you recall anybody -- let me back up. 11 foundation. 12 Strike that. 12 (BY MR. HERBERT) 13 While you worked at CPI, do you recall any 13 Q. And that was a "yes," that "um-hm"? 14 customers or potential customers calling and raising 14 15 the issue of CPI's competitor, Vivint or any Vivint 15 Q. Okay. One thing about a deposition is you 16 sales reps, that had visited any customers? 16 have to give a verbal response. The court reporter 17 A. No. 17 can't take down the um-hms or the uh-uhs. 18 Q. Do you know if CPI employees ever told 18 And you heard that during the time that you 19 customers or potential customers that Vivint wasn't 19 worked at CPI, right? 20 licensed to work in the state of North Carolina? 20 A. Yes. 21 MR. EBLEN: Foundation. 21 MR. EBLEN: Object to form and 22 THE WITNESS: Could you repeat the 22 foundation. 23 question, Mr. Herbert? I'm sorry. 23 (BY MR. HERBERT) 24 (BY MR. HERBERT) 24 Q. When you say that you heard CPI reps say 25 that Vivint was unethical, anything in particular that 25 Q. Yeah. Have you ever heard of anybody at Page 47 Page 49 1 CPI telling a customer or a potential customer that 1 CPI reps were saying that they claimed was allegedly 2 Vivint was not licensed to do business in 2 unethical? 3 North Carolina? 3 MR. EBLEN: Form and foundation. 4 MR. EBLEN: Foundation. THE WITNESS: They were claiming, from THE WITNESS: You've got to remember, 5 what I recall, a potential legal entanglement that --6 it's been quite some time. I do know that CPI sales 6 that's what I remember. Something to the effect of, 7 agents were certainly instructed to say things about 7 "Well, if you look up public records, they" -- some 8 Vivint that were, quite frankly, probably more of a 8 unethical sales practices at the door or something to 9 matter of opinion, like, "They're not telling you 9 that effect. 10 everything they -- there's a lot of information that 10 (BY MR. HERBERT) 11 they won't tell you. I wouldn't trust Vivint." Things Q. And it's your understanding that CPI sales 11 12 of that nature. It wouldn't surprise me if the 12 reps who said they could easily compete against Vivint 13 licensing piece may have been one of those items -- one were telling this to customers or potential customers? 14 of the bullet points to countersell Vivint. 14 MR. EBLEN: Form and foundation. 15 (BY MR. HERBERT) 15 THE WITNESS: From what they were Q. Those opinions that you just testified 16 telling me, yes. 17 about, what is your basis for that testimony? Did you 17 (BY MR. HERBERT) 18 hear that from other CPI employees? 18 Q. Regarding that policy and practice that you A. Yes. Particularly so as the guy -- I ran 19 testified about Vivint agreeing to allow customers to 20 bar African-American CPI employees from their homes, 20 retention mostly. And then most of the customers that 21 we dealt with from the sales perspective were just 21 what is your personal view on that policy? 22 22 folks that were calling in because they had -- you MR. EBLEN: Form and foundation. 23 know, the house they moved into had a CPI system, so 23 THE WITNESS: I mean, I think it

13 (Pages 46 - 49)

24 speaks to the discrimination, all the way from the top

25 down, of the organization. And I think it actually

24 it's easy for them to activate, so there wasn't a lot

25 of competitive selling on my end.

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- 1 creates inequitable pay for technicians of color
- 2 because part of their goal is when they go to a
- 3 customer's home is to up-sell, and, you know, if you
- 4 are limiting the amount of homes that they can go to,
- 5 then you're limiting the amount of opportunities --
- 6 up-sell opportunities that they have.
- 7 (BY MR. HERBERT)
- 8 Q. Did you hear of any African-American CPI
- 9 employees complain about that policy or practice?
- MR. EBLEN: Form and foundation.
- 11 THE WITNESS: Only after my time at
- 12 CPI, yes.
- 13 (BY MR. HERBERT)
- 14 Q. You heard that from people who reached out
- 15 to you after the controversy broke out?
- 16 A. Correct.
- 17 Q. Do you -- do you recall the names of any of
- 18 those individuals?
- 19 A. Not at the moment. Not at the moment, but
- 20 I'm pretty sure if I dig through, I can probably figure
- 21 it out.
- Q. Can you give me your best estimate on how
- 23 many folks told you that?
- A. I would say about five to ten.
- Q. And were those folks people who -- were

- 1 to Ken Gill's attention or Chief Kerr Putney's
- 2 attention.
- 3 (BY MR. HERBERT)
- Q. So, as far as you know, CPI still condones
- 5 that policy or practice?
- A. As far as I'm concerned, yeah. I haven't
- 7 heard otherwise.
- 8 Q. Let me ask you about your decision to go
- 9 public with the comments from Mr. Gill that you
- 10 indicated you believe were racist. I believe you said
- 11 you consulted with the board at Queen City Unity?
- 12 A. Yes.
- Q. Did you have any other input from any other
- 14 people about whether or not you should publicize those
- 15 comments?
- 16 A. Outside of the board?
- 17 O. Yes. Um-hm.
- 18 A. Yeah. You know, I consulted several
- 19 community leaders and friends that I know. Some of
- 20 them were very supportive and said, "You should do it."
- 21 A couple of them said, "Hey, you know, he's a very rich
- 22 and powerful man in our city who is very much in
- 23 cahoots with the CMPD. You should be very careful.
- 24 I'm worried about you." But overall, the decision lies
- 25 on the board of directors, and the board voted in favor

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- 1 some of those folks people who were still at that time
- 2 currently working for CPI?
- 3 A. The majority of them were former employees.
- 4 There could have been a couple that were still
- 5 employed, yes.
- 6 Q. Do you know if CPI did anything to change
- 7 or alter that policy or practice after this controversy
- 8 about Mr. Gill's comments broke out?
- 9 MR. EBLEN: Form and foundation.
- 10 THE WITNESS: I do not. What I do
- 11 know is that Kelley Phelps who used to be my
- 12 counterpart at CPI, the other call center director, as
- 13 it was explained to me through a mutual acquaintance is
- 14 that when she brought it to Chief Kerr Putney and Chief
- 15 Kerr Putney brought it to Kenneth Gill to correct the
- 16 matter, that then she was asked to leave.
- 17 (BY MR. HERBERT)
- 18 Q. You're not aware of any other action that
- 19 CPI or the company took to attempt to resolve or remedy
- 20 that policy or practice?
- 21 MR. EBLEN: Form and foundation.
- 22 THE WITNESS: No. At least from the
- 23 sound of it to me, it sounds like they were pretty
- 24 adamant about keeping it if it, you know, constituted
- 25 Ms. Kelley Phelps being asked to leave for bringing it

- 1 of moving forward with it which I supported and I 2 spearhead.
- Q. With you say the CMPD, that's the
- 4 Charlotte-Mecklenburg Police Department?
- 5 A. Correct. I'm sorry, yes.
- 6 Q. So folks -- some folks were telling you
- 7 that because Mr. Gill has a very close relationship
- 8 with the local police department that you might be at
- 9 risk if you went public with this information?
- 10 A. Correct. Yeah. Which I did receive many
- 11 death threats from just people writing me letters that
- 12 were death threats. Yeah.
- Q. Did you have any information as to whether
- 14 any of the threats you received were from current CPI
- 15 employees?
- MR. EBLEN: Form and foundation.
- 17 THE WITNESS: No. I didn't have any
- 18 information that would confirm that it was CPI
- 19 employees.
- 20 (BY MR. HERBERT)
- Q. Did you suspect that?
- A. No. Well, perhaps, yes. You know, I'm
- 23 pretty sure -- it would make sense for one plus one to
- 24 equal two. I also know that there were -- there were
- 25 fake Facebook profiles created with images of people of

14 (Pages 50 - 53)

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